



*"Home of the Thunderbirds"*

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September 25, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

It is hard to believe that the end of September is upon us! This has been a very interesting month indeed. On behalf of the Carisbrooke team I would like to express our appreciation for all of the calls and emails of support during this unprecedented time.

#### **Coming up this week -**

**Orange Shirt Day** is this Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> so wear orange (or similar colour)! Orange Shirt Day is a movement that officially began in 2013 but in reality it began in 1973 when six year old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School, outside of Williams Lake, BC. The "orange shirt" in Orange Shirt Day refers to the new shirt that she was given to her by her grandmother for her first day of school. When Phyllis got to school, they took away her clothes, including her new shirt. It was never returned. To Phyllis, the colour orange has always reminded her of her experiences at residential school and, as she has said, "how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared." Orange Shirt Day was started by Phyllis to educate people about residential schools and fight racism and bullying. The message that Phyllis wants to pass along on Orange Shirt Day — and every day — is that **every child matters**.

As you know, next week we have a school-based **Professional day on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** and a **District Wide Curriculum Implementation Day on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. School will not be in session on for students but the Carisbrooke staff will be working very hard!

On Thursday, our team will be engaged in an online learning session with Trevor Mackenzie, author of **Inquiry Mindset**. Professional development in the area of inquiry aligns with our School Plan focus the Critical and Creative Thinking Competencies.

On Friday, the Carisbrooke Team will be focused on instructional planning that will enable us to quickly pivot teaching practices in case of a transition into another COVID Stage. Grade group teachers will be working together to develop cross-disciplinary planning with a focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Social-Emotional Learning.

#### **Health and Safety -**

This week there have been some themes that come up regularly and so I thought that sharing highlights from the NVSD FAQ's might be helpful.

*Q: Could you be very specific about what I must do if my child wakes up on the morning of a school day with a runny nose (i.e. do they have to see a doctor? Do they have to get a COVID test? How many days must they stay home? Do I need the doctor to confirm that they no longer have a cold before they can return to school?).*

A: From the [BCCDC FAQ](#): Students and staff with seasonal allergies or other COVID-19-like symptoms related to pre-existing conditions don't need to stay home if their symptoms are normal. If they experience any new or unexplained symptoms, they should stay home and contact a health care provider. Anyone

unsure about the symptoms they are experiencing should stay at home and contact their health care provider, use the self-assessment tool at [bc.thrive.health](http://bc.thrive.health) or call 8-1-1 to assess symptoms and determine if testing is required.

*Q: What is the protocol if one sibling presents with symptoms of COVID on a morning, does the other also stay from school? Or if one feels unwell during the school day, does the sibling also go home?*

*A: From the [BCCDC FAQ](#): Students and staff without symptoms can still go to school even if someone else in their household is sick. They cannot go to school if public health has told them not to. This is the same as for other settings like workplaces and public spaces. Most people who are sick or have symptoms of illness in B.C. are not sick with COVID-19. So, it is very unlikely the person in their household has COVID-19. If someone has been diagnosed with COVID-19, public health will identify close contacts and ask them to stay home and self-isolate. The person who is sick or has symptoms should be assessed by 8-1-1 or a health care provider. Testing is recommended for anyone with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, even mild ones.*

Our North Vancouver School District webpage resources are updated regularly and I highly recommend them. They include:

- [Back-to-School FAQ](#)
- [Management of Illness and Confirmed Cases FAQ](#)
- [Back-to-School Town Hall video](#)
- [Facilities FAQ](#)

**For your calendar:**

- **Photo day** retake day will take place on **October 27**. All ordering will be online and photo packages will be mailed directly to homes.

Please contact me at any time should you have any questions or require additional information. Stay well!

Sincerely,

Lisa Upton

Principal, Carisbrooke